

**LIQUOR LICENSING & REVIEW COMMISSION
VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN
VILLAGE HALL AUDITORIUM
9446 RAYMOND AVENUE OAK LAWN IL 60453
Meeting Minutes #2023-3 (05-23-23)**

I. ROLL CALL: Meeting called to order at 5:05 p.m.

Chairperson: Mayor Terry Vorderer

Members: Cheryl Daly Terry O'Reilly
Jan Goetz Tom DeMatteo
Jim Oskielunas Larry Daly (*ABS*)
Jack Hopkins

Staff: Michael Marrs Village Attorney
Deanne Adasiak, Recording Secretary

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Vorderer.

III. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:

A motion was made by Member Hopkins to approve the prior Meeting Minutes of March 28, 2023, #2023-2. The motion was seconded by Member O'Reilly.

Roll call: Daly, yes; Goetz, yes; Oskielunas, yes; Hopkins, yes; O'Reilly, yes; DeMatteo, yes.

Motion to approve passes: 6-0.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

- A.) Liquor License Request for A.O.K. Restaurant, Inc., dba Blueberry Hill at 5769 West 95th Street, Oak Lawn, IL 60453. Requesting Classification HV (Restaurant, Liquor, No Bar Permitted, Video Gaming)

The petitioner was not present.

Mayor Vorderer stated that this was a former breakfast restaurant location with video gaming machines.

Member O'Reilly made a motion to approve the Liquor License Request for A.O.K. Restaurant, Inc., dba Blueberry Hill at 5769 West 95th Street, Oak Lawn, IL 60453. Requesting Classification HV (Restaurant, Liquor, No Bar Permitted, Video Gaming)

Roll call: Daly, yes; Goetz, yes; Oskielunas, yes; Hopkins, yes; O'Reilly, yes; DeMatteo, yes.

Motion to approve passes: 6-0.

- B.) Tobacco License Request for Signature Tobacco Group, Inc., dba Signature Tobacco at 9914 Southwest Highway, Oak Lawn, IL 60453. Requesting Tobacco License (Change of Ownership)

Mr. Mohanad Mansour, 16536 Seton Place, Orland Park, Illinois

Mayor Vorderer asked the petitioner whether he intends to make any changes or simply take over the existing business. The petitioner responded that he would take over the business. Mayor Vorderer stated that ownership at that location has changed many times in the last year or so.

A motion was made by Member O'Reilly to approve the Tobacco License Request for Signature Tobacco Group, Inc., dba Signature Tobacco at 9914 Southwest Highway, Oak Lawn, IL 60453. Requesting Tobacco License (Change of Ownership)

Roll Call: Daly, yes; Goetz, yes; Oskielunas, yes; Hopkins, yes; O'Reilly, yes; DeMatteo, yes.

Motion to approve passes: 6-0.

- C.) Tobacco License Request for Yaya Cash N Carry at 8825 S. Ridgeland Avenue, Oak Lawn, IL 60453. Requesting Tobacco License. General merchandise and Tobacco wholesale sales – not open to the public.

Mr. Yazen Mustafa, 8825 S. Ridgeland Avenue, Oak Lawn, IL.

The petitioner explained that he wished to establish a tobacco business for retailers. Mayor Vorderer stated that the Village has a tobacco moratorium on tobacco shops, limiting the number of tobacco stores in the Village to 12, and that this proposed location would violate the moratorium.

Member Hopkins commented that the application states that the business will not be open to the public and requested clarification from the petitioner. According to the petitioner, sales will only be available to business owners and retailers. He said he will only sell wholesale tobacco to business owners and retailers. Member Hopkins asked about the petitioner's state license. The petitioner responded that he was waiting for local approval before applying for the state license.

Member O'Reilly asked as to the distinction between a wholesale tobacco shop and a regular tobacco shop. Mayor Vorderer pointed out that the application indicates the presence of a counter and asked whether the doors would be locked. Yes, said the petitioner. He said that he will not be open to the public and will only sell to retailers who show their business license. The petitioner mentioned that he is from Florida and is looking to expand his business here. He stated that he understands Oak Lawn is strict on tobacco retailers and that he is here to find out if he will be granted a license. Mayor Vorderer stated that after years of discussion with the Board of Trustees, this is most likely not going to be allowed.

A motion was made by Member Daly to deny the Tobacco License Request for Yaya Cash N Carry at 8825 S. Ridgeland Avenue, Oak Lawn, IL 60453. Requesting Tobacco License. General merchandise and Tobacco wholesale sales – not open to the public. The motion to deny was seconded by Member Hopkins.

Roll Call: Daly, yes; Goetz, yes; Oskielunas, yes; Hopkins, yes; O'Reilly, yes; DeMatteo, yes.

Motion to deny passes: 6-0.

- D.) Liquor License Request for ASVT, LLC dba Oak Lawn Diner at 4002 W. 111th Street, Oak Lawn, IL. Requesting Classification HV (Restaurant, Liquor, No Bar Permitted, Video Gaming)

Mr. Athanasios Stoes, 4530 West 93rd Street, Oak Lawn, IL.

Mayor Vorderer congratulated the petitioner on the purchase of the business. According to the petitioner, he is working with an architect to modernize the restaurant. He explained that two storefronts, 4000 and 4002, are being combined into one. According to the petitioner, it will allow for more dining options including drinks like Bloody Mary's and Mimosas, as well as video gaming. The petitioner was informed by Mayor Vorderer that the video gaming hours would be compatible with operating hours. According to the petitioner, this is not an issue.

Member Hopkins asked if the gaming area is walled off. The petitioner replied yes and said he prefers that area to be more private. Member Hopkins asked whether the walls extend all the way to the ceiling. The petitioner responded no. Mayor Vorderer said he believes you must be able to see the gaming room. Village Counsel said the employees must be able to see the entrance.

Member Daly asked the seating count. The petitioner responded that the restaurant currently seats 102 people and that he plans to increase that number to 130.

Member O'Reilly inquired as to the number of employees. According to the petitioner, he estimates 15-20 employees.

Member Hopkins asked if construction has started yet. The petitioner responded not yet.

A motion was made by Commissioner O'Reilly to approve the Liquor License Request for ASVT, LLC dba Oak Lawn Diner at 4002 W. 111th Street, Oak Lawn, IL. Requesting Classification HV (Restaurant, Liquor, No Bar Permitted, Video Gaming). The motion was seconded by Member Oskielunas.

Roll Call: Daly, yes; Goetz, yes; Oskielunas, yes; Hopkins, yes; O'Reilly, yes; DeMatteo, yes.

Motion to approve passes: 6-0.

- E.) Liquor License Request for Arbuda Oak Lawn, Inc. dba Oak Lawn Wine and Spirits at 10329 Central Avenue, Oak Lawn, IL 60453

Mr. Arun Simon, 304 W. Circle Avenue, Prospect Heights, IL.

According to the petitioner, the owner hopes to add gaming to the location and will provide food and drinks. Mayor Vorderer stated that he understands the request to keep the liquor license but expand it to include gaming. He asked about the petitioner's comments to serve liquor as he believes that is a different license classification. Deanne commented that the Illinois Gaming Board requires all gaming licenses to include on-site consumption. The petitioner stated that they will comply with all the city's requirements. Mayor Vorderer suggested that the business owner consider adding a small bar and some type of food.

Mayor Vorderer mentioned that gaming cafes in Oak Lawn are required to put in a full kitchen. He expressed that the subject liquor store is an established business and that there are other

liquor stores with gaming. He expressed there is some regret in granting video gaming to liquor stores, but he does believe a precedent in place because other liquor stores offer gaming.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hopkins to approve the Liquor License Request for Arbuda Oak Lawn, Inc. dba Oak Lawn Wine and Spirits at 10329 Central Avenue, Oak Lawn, IL 60453. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Oskielunas.

Roll Call: Daly, yes; Goetz, yes; Oskielunas, yes; Hopkins, yes; O'Reilly, yes; DeMatteo, yes.

Motion to approve passes: 6-0.

- F.) Liquor License Request for La Cocina De Mama at 5721 West 95th Street, Oak Lawn, IL 60453. Requesting Classification IV (Restaurant, Liquor, Bar, Live Entertainment Permitted, Video Gaming)

Mr. Luis Palafox, 6823 Hickory Street, Tinley Park, IL.

The petitioner indicated that he worked for Vince Santoro at Frankie's for the last 16 years. He said he managed the Tinley Park location for the last 5 years. The petitioner explained that he intends to open an upscale fine dining Mexican restaurant with plated food and would also like to include margaritas and video gaming. The petitioner indicated that he would close off the video gaming area.

Member O'Reilly asked the planned opening date. The petitioner responded June 30th.

Mayor Vorderer asked the petitioner if he will add a bar. The petitioner responded that he does not plan to add a bar but will display the liquor products. He said the patrons will order drinks from the table. Member Daly asked if he will still have carryout. The petitioner responded yes. He said his hours of operation will be 10:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

V. OTHER BUSINESS:

A. Mayor's Report

None.

VI. REPORTS:

A. Current Gaming Revenue

No discussion.

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Member Daly and seconded by Member Goetz.

Voice Vote: All in favor, aye.

Motion to adjourn passes.

The meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.

Staff Report for July 25, 2023 Liquor and Tobacco Committee Agenda

Global Liquors, LLC dba Global Liquors at 5711-13 requesting Liquor License Classification B for 5711-13 W. 95th Street. Earlier applicant for this location, at October of 2021 was approved, by Commission, a Liquor License but did not open for business. New applicant is requesting Classification B. New Business.

CLASS B LICENSE; Package Liquor Store And Drugstores Only: Shall authorize the retail sale of all alcoholic liquor in its original package only, not for consumption on the premises where sold. No alcoholic liquor shall be sold, given away or offered for sale in, upon or about the specified premises so licensed between the hours of two o'clock (2:00) A.M. and seven o'clock (7:00) A.M. on weekdays and two o'clock (2:00) A.M. and nine o'clock (9:00) A.M. on Sundays.

Global Liquors, LLC dba Global Liquors at 5711-13 W. 95th Street is requesting a Tobacco License for 5711-13 W. 95th Street, Oak Lawn, IL 60453. New Business.
